

Spark Gap

Vol. 30, Issue 6, May & June 2013 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for Thirty - Years*

On Our MARC...

We've reached the busy months of May and June. For some of our members things got underway early, as they helped out with the 500 Festival Mini Marathon. An event of this scale would not be possible without the involvement of the ham community. From net control to out on the course, the MARC was there.

Many of our members will pack up the car or board a charter bus this weekend and head for the annual Hamvention in Dayton, Ohio. For those of us who will remain behind to hold down the fort, we will expect a full report next month. Better yet, just bring in all of the new toys that you purchase, so that we can ooh and ahh!

On Saturday, June 8 we will gather at Sugar Grove Elementary School in Greenwood to support the White River Township Fire Dept. at their annual Strawberry Festival. It is our way of saying Thank You to the members of the WRTFD for their public service and for allowing us to operate our repeater from their Station 51. The event also gives us an opportunity to spend a day operating from the field and to talk to those in attendance about the wonderful world of amateur radio. Please plan to join us!

June 22nd and 23rd are the dates of this year's Field Day. The MARC will operate again this year from the EOC, with, weather permitting, some outdoor set-ups and displays. In preparation for the event, W8ISH, K9DY, KC9VKL, and AF9SE, have spent time cleaning up our radio room. Please show them your appreciation by taking a shift behind a rig or serving as a logger. Let's see how strong a showing we can make this year.

For those of you not heading to Dayton on Saturday, we will see you at the meeting and, as always, we will have the coffee pot on!

See you soon!

Bob - KC9NJM

President

MARC JUNE GUEST SPEAKER

I wouldn't call Steve Ellis AF9SE a guest speaker, he's more like a regular fixture with loads of experience. With that in mind we have recruited Steve to give us a short course on how to use your multi-meter VOM. From rookies to retirees it is always good to have a refresher course on one of the most valuable trouble shooting tools in your tool box.

Bring your analog meter or digital meter, a diode, resister and transister if you would like to have the full experience. A simple \$4.00 digital meter can be purchased at Harbor Freight if you need to pick one up.

See you Saturday, 8am at the EOC.

73,
Jack w8ish

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43rd INDIANAPOLIS HAMFEST

and
Communication Expo

JULY 13, 2013

Gates Open at 6 a.m. EDT

NEW LOCATION
MARION COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

Featuring “an HT every ½ hour” starting at 0900
Need not be present to win!

WWW.INDYHAMFEST.COM

2013 White River Twp Fire Department STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

Nothing mixes better than strawberry shortcake, ice cream and ham radio. For the 19th year in a row our Mid-State Amateur Radio club set up camp at the entrance of Sugar Grove Elementary school for the annual White River Fire Department's Strawberry Festival.

After a quick breakfast at Bob Evans our hearty group of amateurs descended on the school to set up tents, step masts and move in tables and chairs.

Ron-K9THR brought his HF rig and new vertical all mode antenna. Bruce-K9ICP erected his new aluminum mast to hold a 40 meter sloper and the ARRL flag. Several club members brought their HT's so we could hear anyone coming to the event. Jack- W8ISH and Steve AF9SE provided tents, tables and batteries for the all day operation.

Bruce, K9ICP and Ron K9THR handled most of the HF contacts. Several of our licensed Techs had an opportunity to work HF radio for the first time. Even the public got into the act. Bruce Tisdale wound up encouraging many kids and adults to try talking on the radio. The eye catching photo display and radio equipment helped attract dozens of festival goers to our tents. Two of those people signed up for our next 1-day Tech class on August 10th.

It didn't take long to notice the classy look of club members sporting their newly embroidered polo shirts. The short sleeved shirts were embroidered by Steve Brown's wife Jeannie. The design includes our names, call sign, club name, location and is finished with the gold and black ARRL logo.

Nearly two dozen club members and their family came by to support our festival effort. We could not have asked for a more perfect weather day. Our thanks to all those who helped set up and tear down the field operation.

Funds from the festival help the fire department to purchase supplies for public education and for equipment not covered by their annual budget.

Jack, W8ISH

A BIG THANKS to Jack for the following pictures:



HAM Roundtable



Steve's Tent



Bruce with radio Rose



Cy and Steve with the mast



Jeff at the table



Steve sets up



Steve and Linda chat.



Sam's wife



LaGrange holds sign



Ron on Radio



Ron and his tripod



When All Else Fails

ARRL FIELD DAY 2013



www.arrl.org

Field Day will be held in Johnson County Emergency Operations Center
Radio Room

All MARC members, amateur radio operators and the public are encouraged to attend and
hear radio contacts being made from all over the nation.

The fun starts on Saturday, June 22 about 11 A.M..



MID-STATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the THIRD SATURDAY of each month
in the basement of the Johnson County Emergency Management Agency,
1111 Hospital Road, Franklin, Indiana 46131.

See our website, www.midstatehams.org, for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a HAM to attend our meetings or be a member of the club.

WA9RDF
Repeater
146.835/
146.235 MHz
151.4 Hz PL Tone

Club Officers:
President: Robert Jones – KC9NJM
Vice President: Jack Parker – W8ISH
Secretary: Rhonda Curtis – WS9H
Treasurer: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG
Repeater Trustee: Steve Brown – N9LC

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

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Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

Please send your articles to my email n9siu@yahoo.com no later than the 3rd of the month